

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND
Journal of the Belles Lettres, Arts, and Sciences.

No. 1816.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1851.

Price **Threepence.**
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Enlargement OF THE LITERARY GAZETTE FOR THE PURPOSES OF SCIENCE, FINE ARTS, MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA.

THE PROPRIETORS of 'THE LITERARY GAZETTE,' impressed with a conviction that it was not possible to treat efficiently of Literature, Science, Fine Arts, Music, and the Drama, within the limits of a paper of sixteen pages, resolved, at the commencement of their undertaking in January last, to devote the Journal exclusively to the interests of Literature. As the season arrived for the Exhibitions of Pictures, it was found necessary, in compliance with the wishes of many Subscribers, to give critical notices of them; but these were insufficient to mark the progress of the Fine Arts, while they intruded upon the space intended for Literature. The insertion of Reviews of Scientific Works elicited also complaints that the Reports of the Learned Societies should have been relinquished, and it has been felt that a weekly record of the progress of Science is still a desideratum.

Encouraged by the success that has attended their efforts in the department of Literature, (the circulation of 'THE LITERARY GAZETTE,' notwithstanding these deficiencies, having been more than doubled,) the Proprietors have determined to enlarge their Journal to twenty-four pages, and to devote the additional space to special departments of Science, Fine Arts, Music, and the Drama.

The contents of 'THE LITERARY GAZETTE' will on Saturday next be arranged as follows:—

Reviews.—Critical Reviews, with extracts, of all important new English Works, and occasionally of Foreign Works.

Notices.—Brief Critical and Analytical Notices of New Books, not suitable for review.

Summary.—Announcements of Forthcoming Works, with notices of New Editions, Reprints, Translations, Periodicals and Pamphlets.

List of New Books.—The usual List, with particulars of size, and price of all books published during the week.

Communications.—Original Memoirs, Biographies, Accounts of Scientific Voyages and Travels, Letters from Correspondents, &c.

Topics of the Week.—An editorial record of literary, scientific, and social intelligence.

Proceedings of Societies.—Abstracts of original Lectures and of Papers read at the Learned Societies, with occasional illustrative Woodcuts of Diagrams, Sections, &c.

Fine Arts.—Reviews and Notices of Art Publications, Prints, Exhibitions, Sales of Pictures, &c., and general art intelligence.

Foreign Correspondence.—Letters from Correspondents resident in Paris, Leipsic, Madrid, and other continental cities.

Music.—Notices of Operas, Concerts, Oratorios, New Publications, and general musical intelligence.

The Drama.—Reports of the Theatres, with Criticisms of new Plays, and general dramatic intelligence.

Varieties.—Fragments of general interest.

It is proposed to commence this enlargement of 'THE LITERARY GAZETTE' on Saturday next, and, with it, to return to the price of Fourpence.

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REVIEWS.

Travels in European Turkey in 1850. By Edmund Spencer, Esq. Colburn and Co.

THERE never was a time when the future destinies of Turkey excited deeper interest than at the present moment. Menaced by Russia, hated by Austria, neglected by France, and befriended by England, the empire of the Sultan attracts the anxious attention of politicians of all grades of rank and every shade of opinion. It is not the first time that the fate of Europe has been linked with the destinies of the representatives of Mahomet. The liberties of nations have seldom, however, if ever, depended on the protection of Mohammedanism, and the crescent has been the sign of the arrest, and not of the furtherance of progress. Yet our ears are ringing with the applauding shouts uttered by Christian freemen at the mention of the chief among Mussulman sovereigns; and the only threat of war breathed by Englishmen is a defiance of the self-styled Christian powers that are muttering vengeance on the nation of infidels who have afforded a truly Christian succour to the exiled patriots of Hungary. The turban and the fez have become badges of enlightened charity, and truth and justice have sought shelter from their persecutors in the minareted sanctuaries of the East. The thunder-laden cloud that hangs over the future of Europe is too dense and dark to permit even those who stand on the clear and sunny pinnacle of England, to discern the features of the dangers that lurk within its portentous folds. But if it be the will of Providence that the storm should not roll away without breaking, the thunderbolts that shall fall will scarcely leave Turkey unscathed, for amid the ruin of the tempest the innocent suffer with the guilty.

Those who know the Turks best, and like them most, entertain but faint hopes of the stability of their empire. No state can hold together, except under very peculiar and unnatural conditions, where the rulers are of a different race and a distinct religion from the ruled; the former being few—very few; the latter many. When the ruled learn their powers, and unite to exercise them, their rulers must fall. The Turks are merely governors of a vast region peopled by nations of opposite creeds and sympathies. Their subjects are not only more numerous, but are also more astute, and, in the mass, capable of a higher intellectual development than themselves. Moreover, the ruling race is not merely hated, it is held in contempt by those whom it has conquered. Yet are the conquerors by no means deficient in intelligence, and their maintenance of power so long has been mainly owing to their superiority in other qualities, in courage, earnestness after a fashion, and, above all, in integrity. The bearing of a Turk is the bearing of an honest man; the demeanour of the rayah bespeaks the subtle knave. Many assume that the evil qualities of the rayah are the results of his subjugated condition. We doubt this. The Greek, at least, in his most palmy days of freedom, was as vicious and unprincipled as he is now; and though centuries of barbarism have cast him down from his high place among the dignitaries of human intellect, no one who has been much among modern Greeks, as we have, questions that in them lies,

still misapplied, all the intellectual subtlety that distinguished their progenitors.

Besides the irreconcilable distinctions of race, there is another cause that must effectually prevent Turkey becoming a stable and powerful state. The country is too large for its population, and that population is not increasing at such a ratio as to cherish any hope of its effectually occupying the country. No state can ever become a power of any consequence under such conditions. This may seem contradictory to those who call to mind the former importance of Turkey among European states. But, in reality, it was the Turks, not Turkey, who constituted the power and made the impression. Able leaders and enthusiastic followers made themselves felt as if they were a great nation. But when they settled down they were too few and too scattered to form an influential people, and the nations they subdued were too different to be amalgamated with themselves. Moreover, the ravages of successive and relentless wars, and of still more relentless famines, had desolated vast tracts of the beautiful and fertile lands upon which they settled. No colonists, no immigrants, came to fill up the blanks, and turn the resources of the deserted country to account. We have journeyed day after day, week after week, over uncultivated fields and untitled plains, where the rich soil and ineffaceable marks of ancient cultivation held out promises of sure and ample reward to the industrious agriculturist. A few peasants cultivating scattered patches of corn-land, and a few wandering shepherds leading the flocks and herds to the choicest morsels of pasture here and there, as inclination or love of change prompted, were all the inhabitants of these once flourishing districts. The tide of emigration, directed by a regulating Providence, is pouring into the most distant and barbarous regions; but there still remains, close at hand, as if kept in reserve, an ample field for agricultural labour, more favoured in soil, climate, and capability, than any American backwood, Canadian clearing, Australian sheep-walk, or Canterbury settlement. The table-lands of Asia Minor, and many parts of European Turkey, have still to be colonised. The time may come when they shall be studded with the prosperous homes of the Anglo-Saxon race. If ever such an event comes to pass, it will be through no sanguinary invasion, but by peaceful settlement.

The work of Mr. Spencer furnishes fresh and valuable information respecting the less-known parts of Turkey in Europe. Well acquainted with several of the languages of the Empire, and accustomed through long usage to the habits and peculiarities of the inhabitants, whether Mussulman or Christian, the traveller was enabled to traverse districts seldom visited, and to mix with the people of town and country on familiar terms. A reader of his narrative, and of the political and statistical digressions interwoven with it, will gain a very clear idea of the peculiarities of the several races who obey, or profess to obey, the sceptre of the Sultan, and of the merits and demerits of the government by which they are ruled.

Mr. Spencer commences his tour in Servia, where he finds a people dreaming of extension of dominion, and a population insufficient to work out the resources of the land. The Servians, whatever may be their faults, are an honest and truthful race, and maintain their hard-earned independence prudently and

with foresight. Their prince lives in a cottage, and rules without pomp, or court, or show. It is a pleasing and not insignificant fact, to find that there is an effective sovereign in a European state who can maintain his power in the fashion of a private gentleman. Education is actively promoted and justice effectually administered. Among the peculiar customs of the Servians, the following one is not the least curious:—

"During my rambles through the streets of Alexinitz, in which, like all the other towns of Servia, we are certain to find something new—some feature characteristic of this primitive people—I was struck with the novel manner in which the auctioneer exercises his vocation: when an article is offered for sale, whether a buffalo, a horse, or a lady's bracelet, a drummer is sent forth to perambulate the town, exhibit the article, and take the biddings; if he can write, he notes them down in his tablets; if not, why a notch in a piece of wood must serve the same purpose, and when he has completed his promenade, he returns to the auctioneer, who examines the different amount of the sums which have been offered, and if approved of by his employer, a loud rat-a-tat announces that the highest bidder is the purchaser. Nor is this the only office the town drummer exercises; he is, at the same time, the crier and the gazette; he announces the promulgation of a new law by a rat-a-tat, and the most important news of the day; and it is he who summons the inhabitants to arms, should the fierce Arnout, or the Bosnian, be making preparations to cross the frontier."

There are some very interesting notices in these volumes of the miniature republics and patriarchal governments that nestle among the mountain regions of the Slavonic districts of Turkey; small independencies, of which we seldom meet with even the names. After giving an account of the origin of the confederacies in Upper Moesia, Mr. Spencer remarks:—

"The patriarchal form of government, and federalism of villages, to which these people are so much attached, is well suited to man in a certain state of society, and particularly to the inhabitants of a mountain district; at the same time it fosters a republican spirit, and whenever they are sufficiently strong, and the mountainous nature of the locality in which they live affords them the means of defence, their first object is to elect a chief, and virtually establish a republic, conforming, however, to the laws, and paying the taxes due to the Sultan, as chief of the empire. We have a very striking instance of this at Zagori, in the mountain fastnesses of the Pindus, where we find a miniature republic in the midst of a despotic empire.

"The inhabitants, a mixed race of Slavons, Greeks, and Roumani, pay the Imperial tax to the Sultan, and maintain undisputed possession of their mountain home; no hostile Osmanli daring to pass the confines of a stronghold, where every man is a soldier, and even the women never part with the pistols and dagger that glitter in their belt.

"Again, we have the little state of Tchernegoria, where a population, scarcely amounting to a hundred thousand, entrenched in their mountains, have continued to keep inviolate their own patriarchal form of Government, their laws and customs, in defiance of the whole force of the Ottoman Porte, and that during the most brilliant epoch of its might and strength.

"It is certain that the system of self-government, and the union of tribes and villages into a confederacy, for mutual defence, has been the means of preserving the nationality and the religion of the Rayahs, in a country where force has been too long the law of the land. Their own social virtues also, which shine out in bright relief in all their intercourse with each other, have had the same tendency. Among this people, the isolating self-interest of Western Europe is unknown; they are generous to each other, hospitable to the stranger, sympathize with the afflicted, and provide a maintenance alike

for helpless infancy and decrepid age. Then let it be remembered, idleness and dissipation, so frequently the heralds of crime in a more civilized state of society, are expressly forbidden, and the man who, in this or any other respect, violates the patriarchal laws of his community is expelled, and becomes an outcast; even the Haiduc of the mountain refuses to associate with him who is branded by his tribe as a Cain.

"But, perhaps, the most beautiful trait in the character of this primitive people, is the unfeigned respect paid to old age. The man who has borne the heat of sixty summers is exempted from every tax, and should such be his pleasure, he may pass the remainder of his days in indolence, since the hearth of each member of his tribe is to him a home; his blessing is solicited, and he is regarded by old and young with reverence, as a man who is approaching the close of his mortal pilgrimage, when he will be translated to a happier home; and must they not by kindness and good offices propitiate the friendship of one who may soon, in another world, intercede for their unworthiness?"

The statement that railways are preparing, if correct, gives rise to a hopeful anticipation for Turkey. The comment upon it, and the anecdote that follows, are good and very true illustrations of the torpidity and energy so strangely intermingled in the Turkish character:—

"We have, however, learned from a source that may be depended upon, that the Turkish Government has at length come to a determination of opening lines of railroad communication between Constantinople and the various commercial towns on the sea-coast, and also with the interior of the provinces; and if we except some of the mountainous districts in Bosnia, Upper Moesia, and Upper Albania, the undertaking offers few engineering difficulties, and the expense would be but trifling, when we remember that the land would cost nothing, wood is to be had for the trouble of cutting, and the wages of the labourer are low, while iron and coal abound in various parts of the provinces. Indolent from temperament, and ever suspecting the counsel of a Giaour, it is to be hoped that neither of these causes will operate to prevent the execution of a design of such vast importance, and so calculated to increase the commercial prosperity of the country. As the scheme originated with the English, to whom the Turks are attached by motives of political interest, we may entertain some expectation of seeing its accomplishment; and to show their belief in the sincerity of our desire to contribute to their welfare, we will relate an instance that occurred during one of my former visits to these provinces.

"When visiting the newly-erected and really splendid military hospital and barracks at Bittoglia, in company with his Highness Darbouhar Reschid, the Vizier, I was surprised and pained to see the number of soldiers swept off by intermittent fever, which was easily accounted for by the vapours arising from a pestilential marsh in the immediate vicinity. On mentioning the circumstance to several Italian and German medical men in the service of the Sultan, stationed here, they unhesitatingly confirmed my opinion, adding that they had frequently recommended the removal of the nuisance, by draining the marsh, but without effect. Almost despairing that any representations of mine would be listened to, still I resolved to make the attempt. I explained to his Highness in what manner marsh miasma produced disease, exaggerated its effects, and gently hinted at the possibility of the great man himself becoming a victim, especially as his very fallow complexion indicated great derangement of the biliary organs. This consideration was decisive; the terrified Osmanli, with all the energy of his race when once roused to action, immediately despatched his aides-de-camp with orders that every able-bodied man in the town should immediately, and without delay, commence the important work of draining the marsh. The mandate was peremptory; fat Rayah citizens and lazy Turks, Jews and Armenians, who had

never before handled a spade, might be seen digging a trench from the marsh to the Monastir-sou, a river that runs through the town; whilst others were busily employed in carrying bricks and stones, and making mortar, to form an archway over it. Still the work was only half done, so long as the town remained embedded in mire during the continuance of wet weather, which became heaps of sand in dry. In compliance with my suggestions, the Vizier issued commands in the same arbitrary manner for paving it, and removing the butchers' stalls and other impurities."

Every here and there Mr. Spencer met with Turkish gentlemen, mostly officers, of considerable intelligence and acquirements. Now that not a few Turkish youths are permitted to see the world in the great cities of Western Europe, and to acquire knowledge in the colleges of France and England, we may hope for an increase of such characters, through whom much benefit is sure to accrue to their nation. One of these men was the colonel of a regiment at Bittoglia, in Macedonia:—

"Moustapha Bey was altogether a remarkable man, in accomplishments far superior to any Mahometan I ever met with; he spoke the French, Italian, and Russian languages—the latter fluently, and with the accent of a native of Russia; in fact, there was a mystery about the early youth and family of the Bey, who, in addition to being considered very wealthy, was highly educated,—a circumstance none of his friends could fathom, not even Halil, whose inquiring spirit generally made him acquainted with the history of every man of note he came in contact with. He was supposed to have been by birth a Caucasian, and to have served in the Russian army, and from some resemblance to the Emperor Napoleon, in form and features, he usually went by that name among his comrades. He appeared to be intensely interested in his profession, subscribed to several scientific periodicals of Western Europe, which might be seen, with a profusion of ancient and modern military works, lying on the tables of his apartment."

There is a prevalent impression that Albania is a region too dangerous for travel—a haunt of brigands and unscrupulous murderers. We have met Englishmen abroad as fearful of venturing into Albania as their countrymen at home are of visiting Ireland. These tabooed regions are, in this respect, alike; they have no dangers for the mere traveller, provided the people are quite sure of his purpose:—

"The worst trait in the character of the Albanians, of whatever tribe or creed, is their implacable vengeance—an injury is never forgiven. On the other hand, they are deeply susceptible of kindness, and display towards each other all the social virtues that distinguish the inhabitants of more civilized countries. The same excitable temperament that leads them to pursue a wrong even to death, shows itself in the enthusiasm with which they give their cattle and provisions to the unfortunate tribe who may fly to them for shelter. At the same time, their unbounded attachment to their chiefs, and their hospitality to the stranger, shine out in bright relief.

"The duties of hospitality, not in this district alone, but everywhere among the Albanian tribes, are held so sacred, that the stranger who has once eaten, or even smoked with one of their people, receives the title of soloidnik (friend of the tribe), and he is never addressed by an other epithet than that of am vla (my brother), a man whom all are bound to defend with their lives, and see safe on his journey. This ancient patriarchal custom is the principal reason that we never hear of the assassination of a stranger among these simple-minded mountaineers, except from political motives; such deeds are invariably confined to the neighbourhood of some large town, where the inhabitants are more immoral, and know better the value of money."

Every traveller in the East, unless his star

is an exceedingly lucky one, must endure the peccadilloes and unceasing rogueries of his hired servant and dragoman, especially if he be a Greek. Mr. Spencer relates an amusing instance of this species of Oriental trouble, which happened to him when in Thrace.

"Up to the present time I had borne with my rascal of a Greek kiraidji, Demetrius, without coming to an actual declaration of hostilities. I engaged him to take me to Adrianople, and on our arrival there, to pay him a certain number of piastres for the use of his horses and his services. In the numerous villages and hamlets through which we passed, he frequently demanded money. He was very poor, or he had some cousin in indifferent circumstances, to whom he wished to give a trifle; then his own expenses, and the keep of his horses, must be paid. We had scarcely got over half the distance, when on arriving at a village inhabited by Bulgarians, he made the usual demand for an advance of money; this led to an altercation, as I found that I had already paid him nearly the full amount I had agreed for. He now refused to proceed any further; positively denied that I had paid him any thing; and even had the daring and the impudence to summon me before the Kodji-bacha of the village.

"Our little cause was tried in the presence of the whole of the villagers, who, with their Kodji-bacha, were already predisposed against me, by the representations of the subtle Greek. With great volubility and earnestness of manner, the clever scamp descanted on the unjust manner in which I had behaved to him. Described me as one of those horrid Franks—a species of living vampyre, who travelled through the country poisoning the inhabitants by giving them pills; and, as a climax to all my misdoings, I was denounced as a Latin Heretic—a thousand times worse than a Mahometan, an infidel, who ate, drank, slept, passed over dangerous rivers and crumbling bridges, and even heard the awful thunder, without making the sign of the cross! The women screamed and crossed themselves! the men gnashed their teeth! and the grave Kodji-bacha frowned most menacingly!"

The Greek calculated beyond his mark. His master addressed his judges in Slavonian. The people were delighted—men and women alike regarded the accused with favour. Something about the kiraidji had excited suspicion of his character when originally hired. Mr. Spencer, anticipating evil, had taken the precaution of making his servant affix his mark, since he could neither read nor write, to an agreement before starting, the English Vice-Consul at Gallipoli being present, and repeated the process whenever he advanced Demetrius money. The mark was a cross. The fact was stated to the Kodji-bacha. The Greek met it at once, by declaring that it was only a clever trick of the heretic Frank to cheat him:—

"We now waited the verdict of the village Solomon, who, with true Oriental gravity, pondered over the case for some time in deep silence. At length, he requested Demetrius and myself to take pen, ink, and paper, and each make a cross. Now, we all know how long a time it requires, and how many wearisome efforts, before the school-boy can acquire sufficient command of his hand to make a straight stroke. The Kodji, who was a scholar, relied on this proof to enable him to discover which party had spoken the truth. As may be presumed, every attempt made by the Greek, whether large or small, produced a cross, of crooked, jagged strokes, exactly similar to those in the pocket-book. This was decisive; and the sentence of the village judge, to have the culprit sent to Dimotika, to receive judgment from the governor, brought the pitiful wretch to my feet imploring for mercy, amidst the execrations of the peasants—an interesting manifestation of the moral feeling of the

people, proving that a traveller, even in this remote corner of European Turkey, can find a court of justice in a miserable-looking village, and an upright judge in the person of a Bulgarian peasant."

In the latter chapters of Mr. Spencer's work will be found some very interesting observations on the Hungarian revolution, and on the present state of Hungary. He describes numerous Hungarian ladies as wearing deep mourning under a vow never to cast it off until their country's independence shall have been achieved; others wearing the national colours in the various articles of dress, and all decorated with bracelets and necklaces made from the coins issued during the government of Louis Kossuth. He states that whereas, when he visited Hungary in 1847, the German language was universally cultivated, in 1850 he found it as universally neglected. Everywhere he found excitement and discontent.

Had the author kept his narrative a little more distinct from his political remarks, his work would have gained, and his observations have had more force. There is much more in these well-timed volumes upon which, had we space, we should like to comment.

The History of the War in Afghanistan. By John William Kaye. Bentley.

We collect from the dedication of this work that Mr. Kaye served in the Bengal artillery, and from the preface that, though in India during the whole time of the Afghan war, he was not actually engaged in it. Becoming possessed of a large quantity of original correspondence which passed between various persons who held political offices, and being free from all official trammels, he set himself to write the history of the Afghan war. The copiousness of the quotations from this correspondence is the object of a justification in the preface; we wish there had been more, and would have patiently endured more excuses, if we could have got it on no other condition. But, independently of the intrinsic and authentic value which these extracts give to the work, we think the reader has much for which to thank the author. The political history is full and well-supported; the military history neither over technical nor unduly loaded with knapsack minutiae. The tone is moderate, but free, with a settled air of prophecy from the beginning. Mr. Kaye either cannot, or will not, lead his reader through the successive feelings of the time, and allow him the hope without which no war would be undertaken, and the exultation over first successes, without which it would not be continued. The novel writer covers the career of his hero and heroine with suspense, though every reader knows that they are finally to attain happiness in the third volume. Mr. Kaye has no such art, or will not use it. The catastrophe is announced in the prologue, and the slaughter in the Khybur pass is in view from the ramparts of Ghuznee.

We shall not attempt to make a connected abstract of the events which are still fresh in memory. The work will be extensively read; and as a lowering medicine it will do the public no harm. If ever there was a moment in English history at which it was wanted, it is the present one. While Europe has been convulsed, we have been quiet and prosperous; and the most extraordinary contest of the age of peace which the world ever saw, was suggested and matured while France, Italy,

Austria, Prussia, Hungary, and Denmark, were either engaged in civil war, or smarting under its effects. It is well that we should be reminded, while all around us is such exultation as may become vainglorious rashness, that we are as vulnerable as our neighbours on all weak points in which we do not choose to know our weakness.

Mr. Kaye himself apologises for his introduction, in which he relates the preliminary struggles of the Afghans with each other. "The number of Oriental names which it is necessary to introduce—the repetition of incidents, greatly resembling each other, of conquest and re-conquest, of treachery and counter-treachery, of rebellions raised and suppressed—creates a confusion in the mind of the European reader. It is difficult to interest him in these indistinct phantasmagoric transitions. The events, too, which I have narrated have been chronicled before. I have endeavoured, however, to impart some novelty to the recital by following, and sometimes quoting, Shah Soojah's autobiography, which was not accessible to preceding historians."

Could we not stereotype an account, which might serve as a substitute for anything oriental? As follows: Shah and Khan, who are usually brothers, play at the pastime of the lion and the unicorn. Their marches and battles are so intricate that the reader forms a notion of each of the two, Shah and Khan, having deserted his own banner and joined the enemy, crossing each other on the road. Just as he is out of this confusion, and at the instant when he hopes that he has got hold enough of the names and colours of the riders to enjoy the race, another Shah joins Khan, and another Khan joins Shah, and there is nothing but elephants and dust, until he learns that *thus* (referring to something which took place under the cloud,) Shah was seated on the throne. But in less than a page and a half, the same work begins again between Shah and Meer.

The dread of French and Russian influence beyond the Indus, which produced various missions to Persia, gives Mr. Kaye his first introduction of British politics. How much was supposed to be in the power of Persia, in the year 1802, may be surmised from the following anecdote:—

"On the return of Captain Malcolm from Persia, one Hadjee Khalil Khan had been despatched to India to reciprocate assurances of friendship, and to ratify and interchange the treaty. The mission cost the Hadjee his life. He had not been long resident in Bombay, when the Persian attendants of the ambassador and the detachment of Company's sepoy forming his escort quarrelled with each other in the court-yard before his house, and came into deadly collision. The Hadjee went out to quell the riot, and was struck dead by a chance shot. The intelligence of this unhappy disaster was brought round to Calcutta by a king's frigate. The sensation it created at the presidency was intense. Every possible demonstration of sorrow was made by the Supreme Government. Minute guns were fired from the ramparts of Fort William. All levees and public dinners at Government-House were suspended. Distant stations caught the alarm from the Council-Chamber of Calcutta. The minor presidencies were scarcely less convulsed. Bombay having previously thrown itself into mourning, instructions for similar observances were sent round to Madras; and two days after the arrival of the *Chiffone* it was announced in the Gazette that Major Malcolm, who was at that time acting as private secretary to Lord Wellesley, had been directed to proceed to Bombay, for the purpose of communicating with the relations of

the late Hadjee Khalil Khan, taking with him, as secretary, his young friend and relative, Lieutenant Paisley, who had accompanied him on his first mission to Persia. At the same time Mr. Lovett, a civilian of no long standing, was ordered to proceed immediately to Bushire, charged with an explanatory letter from Lord Wellesley to the Persian king, and instructed to offer such verbal explanations as might be called for by the outraged monarch. For some days nothing was thought of in Calcutta beyond the circle of this calamitous affair. In other directions a complete paralysis descended upon the Governor-General and his advisers. The paramount emergency bewildered the strongest understandings, and dismayed the stoutest hearts at the Presidency. And yet it was said, not long afterwards, by the minister of Shiraz, that 'the English might kill ten ambassadors, if they would pay for them at the same rate.'"

The character of Dost Mahomed is rather favourably given. At one time the project of forming an alliance with him was strongly pressed by Mr. McNeill, and Captain Burnes was dispatched by Lord Auckland to Caubul. The following extract will show the nature of the imbecile half-measures by which our ultimate difficulties were brought about, and will also give an idea of the advantage of having private correspondence at hand:—

"But when Captain Burnes was despatched to Caubul, his powers were so limited, that, although he was profuse in his expressions of sympathy, he had not the authority to offer substantial assistance; and when he ventured to exceed the instructions of government, he was severely censured for his unauthorized proceedings. His mission failed. What wonder? It could by no possibility have succeeded. If utter failure had been the great end sought to be accomplished, the whole business could not have been more cunningly devised. Burnes asked everything; and promised nothing. He was tied hand and foot. He had no power to treat with Dost Mahomed. All that he could do was to demand on one hand and refuse on the other. He talked about the friendship of the British Government. Dost Mahomed asked for some proof of it; and no proof was forthcoming. The wonder is, not that the Ameer at last listened to the overtures of others, but that he did not seek other assistance before."

"No better proof of his earnest desire to cement an alliance with the British Government need be sought for than that involved in the fact of his extreme reluctance to abandon all hope of assistance from the British, and to turn his eyes in another direction. It was not until he was driven to despair by resolute refusals from the quarter whence he looked for aid, that he accepted the offers so freely made to him by other States, and set the seal upon his own destruction. 'Our government,' said Burnes, 'would do nothing; but the Secretary of the Russian Legation came with the most direct offers of assistance and money, and as I had no power to counteract him by a similar offer, and got wigged for talking of it at a time when it would have been merely a dead letter to say Afghanistan was under our protection, I was obliged of course to give in.' What better result Lord Auckland could have anticipated, it is hard to say. If the failure of the Mission astonished him, he must have been the most sanguine of men. I am unable to perceive that there was anything unreasonable or unfriendly in the conduct of Dost Mahomed at this time. That, from the very first, he was disappointed, there is no doubt. He had formed exaggerated ideas of the generosity and munificence of the British Government in the East, and, doubtless, expected great things from the contemplated alliance. The Mission had scarcely been a day in Caubul, when the feelings of the Ameer were shocked—the exuberance of his hopes somewhat straitened—and his dignity greatly offended, by the paltry character of the presents of which Burnes was the bearer. No one ignorant of the childish eagerness with which Oriental Princes

examine the ceremonial gifts presented to them by foreign potentates, and the importance which they attach to the value of these presents, as indications of a greater or less degree of friendship and respect on the part of the donor, can appreciate the mortification of Dost Mahomed on discovering that the British Government, of whose immense resources and boundless liberality he had so exalted a notion, had sent him nothing but a few trumpery toys. Burnes had been directed to 'procure from Bombay such articles as would be required to be given in presents to the different chiefs.' And it had been characteristically added: 'They ought not to be of a costly nature, but should be chosen particularly with a view to exhibit the superiority of British manufactures.' Accordingly the envoy had provided himself with a pistol and a telescope for Dost Mahomed, and a few trifles for the inmates of the Zenana—such as pins, needles, and playthings. The costliness of the presents lavished upon Shah Soojah, when the Mission under Mount Stuart Elphinstone had entered Afghanistan, was still a tradition throughout the country. The Ameer was disappointed. He thought that the niggardliness of the British Government, in this instance, portended no good. Nor was he mistaken. He soon found that the intention to give little was manifest in all the proceedings of the Mission."

Unfortunately, it pleased the Government to adopt the exiled Shah Soojah, a weak and blundering man, and to imagine the possibility of making use of him as the means of extending British influence, by placing him upon the throne already occupied by the brave and able Dost Mahomed, with all the regular vices and irregular virtues of an Afghan. One might have supposed that the history of Europe would have been sufficient warning against this crazy trick of reconciling a nation to a policy it does not like, by forcing upon it a sovereign whom it hates without fear. But it was no warning in this case; and the trick was played by a Government which had owed its existence to the fall of Charles X. For though reform in parliament must have come sooner or later, it is impossible to deny that sooner conquered later in the three days of July.

We are all wise after the event; before it, we find nothing but an impression that the intrigues of Russia were making a danger for us very fast. The Persian siege of Herat, undertaken, no doubt, at Russian instigation, seemed as if it would one day bring an enemy's half-vassal to our very frontier. So thought, not Lord Auckland only, but his old colleagues at home, who frankly took their share of the responsibility of his whole course. That is to say, the expedition into Afghanistan was undertaken, not because it must be done, but because *something* must be done; and the executive in India had not Sydney Smith's fear of men who say that something must be done. On this siege of Herat, so well resisted by the Afghan garrison, though its chief arm was the imbecility and disunion of the enemy, Mr. Kaye is able to cite the journal of Lieutenant Eldred Pottinger, the nephew of the celebrated diplomatist. This young officer was, though it is not easily detected from his own journal, the life of the defence. He had been sent by Colonel Pottinger, then the resident in Sindh, merely to explore Afghanistan, and in no recognised official capacity. Herat is probably destined to be the scene of new events; and the following description of it may be interesting:—

"Surrounded by a fair expanse of country, where alternating corn-fields, vineyards, and gardens varied the richness and beauty of the scene; where little fortified villages studded the plain, and the bright waters of small running stream

lightened the pleasant landscape, lay the city of Herat. The beauty of the place was beyond the walls. Within, all was dirt and desolation. Strongly fortified on every side by a wet ditch and a solid outer wall, with five gates, each defended by a small outwork, the city presented but few claims to the admiration of the traveller. Four long bazaars, roofed with arched brickwork, meeting in a small domed quadrangle in the centre of the city, divided it into four quarters. In each of these there may have been about a thousand dwelling-houses and ten thousands of inhabitants. Mosques and caravanserais, public baths and public reservoirs, varied the wretched uniformity of the narrow dirty streets, which, roofed across, were often little better than dark tunnels or conduits, where every conceivable description of filth was suffered to collect and putrify. When Arthur Conolly expressed his wonder how the people could live in the midst of so much filth, he was answered, 'The climate is fine; and if dirt killed people, where would the Afghans be?'

"Such to the eye of an ordinary traveller, in search of the picturesque, was the aspect of the city and its environs at the time when the army of Mahomed Shah was marching upon Herat. To the mind of the military observer both the position and construction of the place were suggestive of much interesting speculation. Situated at that point of the great mountain-range which alone presents facilities to the transport of a train of heavy artillery, Herat has, with no impropriety of designation, been described as the 'Gate of India.' Within the limits of the Heratee territory all the great roads leading on India converge. At other points, between Herat and Caubul, a body of troops unencumbered with guns, or having only a light field artillery, might make good its passage, if not actively opposed, across the stupendous mountain-ranges of the Hindoo-Koosh; but it is only by the Herat route that a really formidable well-equipped army could make its way upon the Indian frontier from the regions on the north-west. Both the nature and the resources of the country are such as to favour the success of the invader. All the materials necessary for the organization of a great army, and the formation of his depôts, are to be found in the neighbourhood of Herat. The extraordinary fertility of the plain has fairly entitled it to be called the 'Granary of Central Asia.' Its mines supply lead, iron, and sulphur; the surface of the country, in almost every direction, is laden with saltpetre; the willow and poplar trees, which furnish the best charcoal, flourish in all parts of the country; whilst from the population might at any time be drawn hardy and docile soldiers to recruit the ranks of an invading army. Upon the possession of such country would depend, in no small measure, the success of operations undertaken for the invasion or the defence of Hindostan."

The following account is very Oriental, particularly the expostulation:—

"On the 18th of January [1838], Yar Mahomed besought Eldred Pottinger to proceed as an envoy, on the part of the Afghans, to the Persian camp. The young English officer readily assented to the proposal; and it was arranged that on the morrow he should have an audience of Shah Kamran, and receive instructions for the conduct of his mission. Accordingly, on the following day, he was conducted to the residence of the Shah. As he went along, he observed with pain, in the interior of the city, the desolating effects of the siege. 'Scarcely a shop had escaped destruction. The shutters, seats, shelves—nay, even the very beams and door-posts had in general been torn out for fire-wood. Scarcely any business was going on. Here and there were gathered knots of the pale and anxious citizens, whispering their condolences and grievances—anxious that they might escape the notice of the rude Afghans, who were swaggering about the streets.' The room in which the Shah received the English officer was a dreary, comfortless place. 'I have seen nothing I can compare to it,' wrote Pottinger, 'but an empty

store-room carpeted.' Plainly, but richly attired, attended only by his eunuchs, the Shah welcomed the young Englishman. But he appeared ill at ease—unhappy about himself—peevish, and lost in thought; for he was sick. It was plain, indeed, that he was more concerned about his health than about the safety of the city. Sending for his chief physician, he consulted him about the royal symptoms, and in the intervals of this interesting personal conversation, coughed out, with considerable energy and warmth, his instructions to the British officer. His cough, indeed, in all probability, saved him from something more serious. For when he had worked himself into a passion, it compelled him to pause, and whilst he was applying himself to the restoratives at hand, he cooled down till the next paroxysm of rage and coughing brought him to a full stop.

"The interview was long and tedious. Much was said in a very wordy language by the Shah, but the substance of the message sent through the young English envoy to the Persian King, is thus set down in the words of the latter: 'You are acting very ungenerously and very unjustly in coming to deprive me of the last city of eighty—of the rest of which my rebellious subjects have deprived me. Your grandfather always styled my father 'brother,' and me 'son,' and now you, to show your fraternity, leave the seventy other cities of your dominions to besiege an empty one, which can never become yours whilst an Afghan remains to wield a sword in its defence. I took refuge here, as it was near your grandfather's (may he be blest!) dominions; and became entitled to the rights of a neighbour. I looked for aid to recover my lost territories—to drive out the false traitors who have seized them—but, lo! my neighbour is come with an army to turn me out of the last corner of my paternal dominions. You have acquired them all during the dissensions of my family, and now you wish to deprive me of the last morsel. It becomes not kings to ally themselves with traitors. How differently did I behave on the death of your grandfather (Futteh Ali Shah)? Was not all Khorassan in rebellion, or ready to rebel? I had received letters from all its chiefs, inviting my aid to throw off your yoke. All my nobles and people were pressing me to march. I had 10,000 horsemen; and the news of an attack on Khorassan would have raised and brought double that number after me. Nishapoor was in rebellion. You had only a few troops in Meshid. No other force was between me and Teheran. In this state, I said that I would not take advantage of the troubles of your family. I despatched my troops, that they might prepare for a campaign against my rebellious subjects. I also sent Futteh Mahomed Khan to congratulate you on your succession, and to beg for aid—offering that, if you would give me a force of regular infantry and guns sufficient to recover my paternal kingdom, I would, on achieving success, transfer Herat to you. What is your answer? How generous! You look round to see who your neighbours are. I am your weakest one. You, therefore, assemble all your force to rob me of my last of eighty cities. You answer my supplication for aid by the roar of your cannon and bombs. Act generously; raise the siege; retire and give me the troops and guns I want; and I will give you, on my success, Herat. Also, turn the Afghan traitors out of your camp. If you persist in your present purpose, future ages will call you a robber, who preyed upon the aged and helpless. If you do not act generously, God is great; and on him we rely. We have still got our swords.'"

An unfortunate Russian agent, by name Vickovich, who was very successful in his mission, illustrates many an old story:—

"When he returned to Persia, in 1839, after giving a full report of his mission to M. Duhamel, the new minister at Teheran, he was instructed to proceed direct to St. Petersburg. On his arrival there, full of hope, for he had discharged the duty entrusted to him with admirable address, he reported himself, after the customary formality, to

Count Nesselrode; but the minister refused to see him. Instead of a flattering welcome, the unhappy envoy was received with a crushing message, to the effect that Count Nesselrode 'knew no Captain Vickovich, except an adventurer of that name, who, it was reported, had been lately engaged in some unauthorized intrigues at Caubul and Candahar.' Vickovich understood at once the dire portent of this message. He knew the character of his government. He was aware of the recent expostulations of Great Britain. And he saw clearly that he was to be sacrificed. He went back to his hotel, wrote a few bitter, reproachful lines, burnt all his other papers, and blew out his brains."

The real action of the piece, as far as our ordinary readers will care to recal it, opens with Lord Auckland's celebrated Simlah manifesto. The Governor-General, according to Mr. Kaye, was over-influenced by his immediate secretaries, Macnaughten, Torrens, and Colvin. The following paragraph is very significant:—

"But it is stated in the manifesto itself that the war was undertaken 'with the concurrence of the Supreme Council of India.' It would be presumptuous to affirm the absolute untruth of a statement thus publicly made in the face of the world by a nobleman of Lord Auckland's unquestionable integrity; but so certain is it that the manifesto was not issued with the concurrence of the Supreme Council, that, when the document was sent down to Calcutta to take its place among the records of the empire, there issued from the Council-Chamber a respectful remonstrance against the consummation of a measure of such grave importance, without an opportunity being afforded to the counsellors of recording their opinions upon it. The remonstrance went to England, and elicited an assurance to the effect that the Governor-General could have intended no personal slight to the members of the Supreme Council; but those members were far too high-minded to have thought for a moment about the personalities of the case; they thought only of the great national interests at stake, and regretted that they should ever be jeopardised by such disregard of the opinions of the Governor-General's legitimate advisers. Such a manifesto as this would never have been cradled in Calcutta."

The opinion of Captain Burnes, a more competent adviser, and more master of his subject, was as follows:—

"What Burnes really recommended, as the growth of his own free and unfettered opinion, was, that the case of Dost Mahomed should be reconsidered, and that the British Government should act with him and not against him. 'It remains to be reconsidered,' he wrote, 'why we cannot act with Dost Mahomed. He is a man of undoubted ability, and has at heart a high opinion of the British nation; and if half you must do for others were done for him, and offers made which he could see conduced to his interests, he would abandon Russia and Persia to-morrow. It may be said that opportunity has been given him; but I would rather discuss this in person with you, for I think there is much to be said for him. Government have admitted that he had at best a choice of difficulties; and it should not be forgotten that we promised nothing, and Persia and Russia held out a great deal.' But Burnes had been asked for his advice, not regarding the best means of counteracting Persian or Russian influence in Afghanistan, but the best means of counteracting Dost Mahomed; and he gave it as his opinion, that if Dost Mahomed were to be counteracted, the restoration of Shah Soojah was a more feasible project than the establishment of Sikh influence at Caubul. Captain Wade had declared his conviction that the disunion of the Afghan chiefs was an element of security to the British; but this opinion Burnes controverted, and pronounced himself in favour of the consolidation of the Afghan Empire. 'As things stand,' he wrote, 'I maintain that it is the best of all policy to make Caubul in itself as strong

as we can make it, and not weaken it by divided forces. It has already been too long divided. Caubul owed its strength in bygone days to the tribute of Cashmere and Sindh. Both are irrecoverably gone, and while we do all we can to keep up the Sikhs, as a power east of the Indus, during the Maharajah's life or afterwards, we should consolidate Afghan power west of the Indus, and have a king, and not a collection of chiefs. *Divide et impera* is a temporising creed at any time; and if the Afghans are united, we and they bid defiance to Persia, and instead of distant relations, we have everything under our eye, and a steadily-progressing influence all along the Indus."

By the light of the then unseen future, by which all statesmen's acts are read, we cannot help seeing the ruinous character of this attempt to create a vassal instead of securing a friend. But we may learn from the course pursued, and its results, to protest against Indian affairs being managed by a Governor-General, except 'in Council.' It is the peculiar advantage of our Indian Government, as compared with that of the colonies, that the Governor-General has opinions around him which he must respect. The Simlah manifesto was, perhaps, the first occasion on which so great a measure as a large war was announced by the Governor-General from a country retirement. We hope it will be the last.

Chapman's Library for the People. No. 1.—Sketches of European Capitals. By William Ware. John Chapman.

THE Literature of the Rail is improving in soundness and intelligence. Last week we announced the publication of an originally translated work of merit in the Travellers' Library, and an abridgment, by the author himself, of Dr. Layard's 'Nineveh;' and now Mr. Chapman enters the field with a shilling series of reprints from America. The first volume is Mr. Ware's 'Sketches of European Capitals,' a work that has been very popular on the other side of the Atlantic, but which we neglected to notice at the time of its first appearance.

It is a laudable custom of our American brethren, which so frequently calls upon the educated traveller, returned from a visit to the Old World, to recount to a circle of his countrymen the results of his observations and experience. The benefits of travel are extended, and a considerable attempt is made to satisfy that need of intercourse with European civilization, which is most keenly felt by the isolated American, and to a secondary extent by the natives of our own country. These advantages are redoubled, when the task of description, of criticism, and of practical exhortation, falls to the lot of a gentleman of scholarship and refinement, who has so successfully reproduced the spirit of antiquity in 'Zenobia,' and filled up the details of a group already skilfully outlined by the pen of Gibbon, in a series of most graphic pictures of the Queen of the East and her minister. The tastes of the author led him naturally to Italy, as the great studio of the fine arts, and to London; the two centres about which the American traveller's thoughts, he says, will chiefly revolve, whether he be a man of books or business. It is in this sense, we presume, that he has entitled his book 'European Capitals'—his descriptions not extending further than to Florence, Rome, and Naples in Italy, and to our own metropolis. The only two great capitals of the earth he considers to be Rome and London.

Accordingly we are first conducted, with

becoming dignity, across the gloomy but majestic Campagna to the walls of the Eternal City. But once within the gates of modern Rome, all sentiments of reverence vanish, till the writer again brings before our notice the view from the Capitol, with its associations, the Forum, and the Amphitheatre. The description of this latter ruin and of the Pantheon occupy the greater portion of what remains, and the descriptive power of the writer is particularly manifest in the vivid portraiture of these scenes, and the emotions they produced on his mind. Nothing is furnished which is very new, or profound, or erudite; but the general effect as a picture is admirable. So in treating of modern Rome, the first view of St. Peter's is the striking fact which engages the writer's principal delineation; and after having surveyed in detail the great Christian church, he passes to the Museum of the Vatican. Here we cannot say that much original illustration has been thrown upon the greater works of art contained in the collection; but much freedom from conventionalities and honesty of sentiment may be noticed. Mr. Ware complains of the 'falsehood' of the restorations of mutilated statues in perhaps a little too Transatlantic a spirit. The Apollo roused in him little feeling or enthusiasm, and he owns to an amount of disappointment, oftener, we suspect, felt than acknowledged, on the first view of Raffaele's 'Transfiguration' and the 'Aurora' of Guido. On the other works of Raffaele in the Chambers, he makes the abundantly truthful remark, that without some knowledge of art, some love of it, and considerable outlay of time and fatigue, it is impossible to understand or to value them. Next to the unquestioned *chefs-d'œuvre*, he is inclined to place certain works of Guercino; and in reviewing the remains of M. Angelo, fresco painting is considered to be the greatest of his attainments, and the ceiling of the Sistine as his greatest intellectual achievement.

In Florence, as at Rome, Mr. Ware has commented on the subjects best known to travellers—the Duomo, the Campanile of Giotto, and the Convent of St. Mark's, where all his observations, though plainly set down as first impressions only, and without much previous study or afterthought, are valuable always from their perfect freedom and sincerity. Some little allowance must be made for national predilections in the panegyric on the works of Powers, though their due station must be deemed a high one in the ranks of art, particularly on the 'Greek Slave,' a statue whose popularity is justly earned, but whose merits fall short of absolute perfection when brought to the criterion of the purest taste. The account of the visit to Naples, Vesuvius, and Pompeii teems with that interest which always attaches to countries so familiar and dear to the imagination; where associations, first acquired and longest cherished, of antiquity, combine with scenes "so fair the sense faints picturing them," even as words and colours fail to represent the calm flow of the waves of Baia, and the bright band of verdure and beauty which intercepts them from the dark flanks of Vesuvius.

So well have these and such like scenes been sketched by Mr. Ware, that we feel no ill-humour with him for taking frequent opportunities, sometimes unnecessary ones, of 'girding at the English of this our country. As a nation, we are, unfortunately, not in his good esteem, or he seems to think an here-

ditary feud has descended to him, which compels him to avenge the literary wrongs of America on this country with his own hand. He describes himself as overwhelmed with the magnitude of London; struck with the grandeur of its noble residences, the size and beauty of the parks, particularly St. James's, which, to our surprise, he considers as "a gem of beauty and elegance, and, one cannot but think, the most beautiful piece of cultivated ground in the world." The names of the squares and streets furnish him with agreeable recollections, though it must have been in memory only, not in reality, that he encountered Grub-street. He speaks favourably also of the order, the cleanliness, and the neatness displayed in this multitudinous society of London. But at this point the tone is changed, the tables are turned, the picture reversed.

Of the fine arts, he says, none can be said to have their home in London or England:—

"The distinguishing characteristics of the English school are detected at a glance on entering the rooms—namely, colour, as the first requisite; and then a broad, loose style of handling, calculated for effect, originated by Reynolds and Gainsboro', as opposed to the German, Dutch, and French schools, where correct drawing, hard and laborious finish, and a polished surface, are the prominent characteristics. The main object of the great English artists seems to have been to see with how little work, by how few and broad touches, a striking effect could be produced; not how near to nature a work of art might be brought by the combined power of genius, skill, and industry. This has led to a great deal of poor art. To such an extreme have these principles been carried in the extreme examples of them, as seen in Gainsboro' himself, and in such later artists as Turner and Constable, that it degenerates into something that scarce deserves the name of painting; it is rather trick, than careful, intelligent, and conscientious art."

Now, however true the opening sentences of this criticism may be—viz., that colour and effect are the main characteristics of English landscape, our artists' fancy, at any rate, that they have reasons for justifying the handling which he condemns as broad and loose; and that in point of correct drawing Turner yields the palm to none, German, Dutch, or French, who ever painted; but the opinions above expressed are those of a person who is satisfied with first impressions, and to this extent, and no further, are they worthy of consideration. The criticism of Turner which follows, is avowedly founded on the landscape and the Venices in the Vernon Gallery only, and is such as might have been expected from so limited and inartistic an acquaintance with the works of the master; but who will attach any value to the opinions of a writer who speaks of Gainsborough's exquisite landscape as "a series of coarse daubings—no beauty or skill in the handling, nothing fine in the colour!"

After an amusing diatribe against certain habits of American social life, administered with spirit and courage, the author reverts to England in a good round of sharp censure on several matters;—such as, the overwhelming lust of wealth, that, according to him, has seized on all hearts and enslaved them, and has made money to be the King, Lords, and Commons of the country; on the "love and practice" of religious insincerity or cant, which he considers to be, quoting the 'Edinburgh,' "the special infirmity of the people;" on the tyranny of our rule in India, where, we are horrified to hear for the first time from American Mr. Ware,—

"There are estimated to be not far from a million of slaves—domestic and field slaves—subject to all the usual conditions of that miserable life, such as scant nutriment, the torture of the lash," &c.

Speaking further of the English, he says—

"They lecture the world on the virtues and duties of peace, but without scruple will let loose the dogs of war whenever their flannels, their cottons, their woollens, iron, or opium, are interfered with. They give suppers and breakfasts, and have all their equipages in full liveried action on Sundays; and for a pretence stop the Sunday mail, that all the various operatives connected therewith may be at leisure to go to church as they ought to do, and say their prayers. They are sadly pained that the American should love the dollar so well, the only difference being that their love of the pound is the same, only five times as much. They have made a great ado, and with justice and sense, about the virtue of temperance in England; there is need of it, for the English, and still more the Scotch and Irish, are a nation of hard drinkers. * * * England riots in luxuries, obtained at the expense of the comfort and subsistence of the lower classes, from whom she wrings by taxes, direct and indirect, the last penny that will just leave the life in the body, over whom she at the same time utters the most touching lamentations for their hardships and miseries."

The reader will be disposed to smile at the strange mixture of fact and fiction, sober judgment and blind invective, inveterate truths and superficial errors, which these sentences disclose; still there is nothing positively injurious or mischievous in them, however exaggerated the views may be in themselves. Some few of them indeed reflect the truth only too faithfully. We cannot say the same of many subsequent passages in the following strain:—

"The English used to love arms better (than money), and they still love them enough. But times are changed, and commerce, with its golden stores, now chiefly occupies and infatuates the English mind. The American, an equal perhaps in his knowledge of, and his devotion to, the science of accumulation, is certainly, at present, and has been for a long time past, his superior in both his passion for arms, and for the skill and success with which he uses them."

He proceeds to show that republicanism is the cause of this superiority!—

"The republican, whenever there has been any approach to equality of position and forces, has ever shown himself the better man of the two."

Now all this is not only untrue in fact, but is, moreover, the silliest piece of hectoring possible, reminding one of the language of a blustering schoolboy, who mouths out invitations to combat that he is very far from intending to follow up. It would not indeed be worth quoting, except to show how far a feeling of wounded national pride and ridiculous over-sensibility can lead a man of real cultivation and refinement.

Apart from these blemishes, Mr. Ware has written a clever and amusing volume. Notwithstanding its hasty views, its occasional inaccuracies, and its spleen, we admire the honesty, and above all, the character it displays.

Mr. Chapman announces for immediate publication Mr. Whipple's lectures on 'Literature and Life,' and Mr. Emerson's 'Representative Men;' and so long as he fills his shilling library with such works, we can afford to give him our best wishes for the success of his undertaking.

Bole Ponjis; containing the tale of the Buccaneer, a Bottle of Red Ink; the Decline and Fall of Ghosts, and other ingredients. By Henry Meredith Parker, Bengal Civil Service. 2 vols. Thacker.

THE odd title of these volumes is unfolded in a few preliminary words, and means, in plain English, "Bowl of Punch." The preface, half learnedly, half jocularly, gives the mythic origin of a word now so familiar. Punch, i. e., the drink so-called, means a thing of five ingredients, from the oriental word for five, of which even those who know nothing else of the word, have some glimmering, in the name Punjab, or region of the Five Waters. Every one who has been in British Asia has heard of a Punchayt, or Jury of Five. Connecting thus the idea of Punch and Five, we are told how one of the early voyagers to India tasted, at Sootanooty (now Calcutta), a delectable liquor called Bole Ponjis, prepared by the Moors, who, while debarred by their religion from wine, had been driven to invent some compound drink in its place. What were the particular elements or the exact proportions of this Mahometan nectar, it is of no matter now to speak, the origin of the name of Mr. Parker's miscellany being sufficiently explained. Our first impression on tasting the contents of his literary Punch-bowl is, that it is disagreeably over-spiced. We have noticed the same fault in various works recently published by our countrymen in the East; for instance, in Lieutenant Burton's 'Scinde, or the Unhappy Valley,' and his book on 'Goa and the Blue Mountains.' We attribute it to the influence of climate. The listless languor of the hot East creeps upon mind as well as body. Digestion, either of dishes or of books, requires the aid of considerable stimulus. And therefore, just as to his guests at a tiffin or dinner Mr. Parker would give condimental ingredients fit only for Eastern palates, so in providing 'the feast of reason and the flow of soul' in his 'Bole Ponjis,' there is an amount of what may be termed 'spicy' or 'smart' writing, very repulsive to our European taste. We regret the amount of levity, vulgarity, and slang pervading the volumes, all the more, that where the author writes in a natural style, he has abundant power to amuse as well as to instruct. We hope that this hint may reach those authors who intend their books for English as well as Indian readers.

Of the lively, rattling, exaggerative style of Mr. Parker's prose, the following extract will give some idea, from a paper entitled—

"CALCUTTA DUST."

"For what sin, committed in a former state of existence, was I set down in Calcutta? Here to taste dust, to smell dust, to breathe dust, to eat dust, to drink dust? To have dust driven up my nose, and down my throat, and into my ears, and my eyes, and through my head? To become 'of the dust, dusty,' for seven-and-twenty consecutive dry weathers, or from the month of November to that of May in each year, both months inclusive! To swallow exactly one hundred and eighty-nine times that traditional 'peck,' to which every man is destined by fate, and the wisdom of our ancestors? To parody Lord Byron at least once a day, and madly shout—

'The winds were choked up in the dusty air,
And the clouds hidden—dustiness had no need
Of shade from them—dust was the universe.'

Or else to feel a sudden fit of savagery, for the thing is at times beyond human endurance, and at once proceed to follow the example set in that 'Dream which was not all a dream,' when mankind

'With curses cast them down upon the dust,
And gnashed their teeth and howled.'

In fact there is nothing to prevent one's gnashing

one's teeth on the occasion, except the intolerable crunching of grit which would attend the operation, or to militate against our howling, but the reflection which checks your 'thunder in mid-volley,' upon that additional ounce or two of pulverized brick, and powdery nastiness, which would certainly take advantage of your opening your mouth for a yell, to wend its way into your epigastric region.

"Napoleon said, when he first entered Poland, that he had discovered a fifth element, the element of mud. We have assuredly discovered a sixth; as raging as fire, as suffocating as water, as pitiless as earth, as universal as the all-pervading air. Ah, Napoleon! thou didst wrong to quarrel with mud. It is defunct dust; and the deceased state of a monster more abominable, more terrible, than the only offspring of the Deucalion deluge, ought to inspire one's mind with none but pleasant thoughts. Indeed, after a good deal of reflection on the subject, we are quite persuaded that Python himself and his history are but typical of dust. First came the deluge, 'sweeping our flocks and herds' from the pleasant plains of Thessaly—then mud—then mud on active service, *c'est-à-dire*, dust—then Apollo, the sun, with his bow—to wit, the rainbow, telling the thirsty vales of impending cloud-water, which lays or kills the dust, to wit, Python—and *voilà tout!*"

Then follows a strange picture of the streets of Calcutta on a windy day, enough to destroy any idea of romance connected with 'the city of palaces.' Indeed, Mr. Parker, in the preface to his 'Orientalisms,' kindly warns his 'occidental or accidental readers,' that they will find in his book no such pictures of the East as fancy may have painted in their imaginations:—

"No 'gardens of gul in her bloom;' no 'lands where all but the spirit of man is divine;'—but the simple prosaic East of this every-day world, from whence comes saltpetre, and the King of Oude's favourite sauce—retired Company's servants with orange-tawney countenances, Bengal indigo, and heroes from the banks of the Indus or Sutlej, all over glory and mustachios."

Things are made a little worse, however, than they need be, when the oriental tale of Rajah Kubbadar Cham thus commences:—

"It was a magnificent morning in the month of May. The thermometer stood precisely at 138° Fahrenheit in the sun, but was three degrees lower in the shade!"

This tale was written on finding the English Reviews criticising the 'Bengal Annual,' as 'not Eastern enough in its character, but having subjects too like those easily obtainable in our northern climate.' So Mr. Parker, it seems, resolved to give something truly oriental, or, as he terms it, "of the East, Easty."

Of the poetical contents of the Bole Ponjis some are oriental, others on general subjects. Of the exaggeration and flippancy already referred to, we have here little to complain. Those of the pieces which are light and humorous, display at once readiness of wit and facility of versification. Of the graver poetry, there are portions which exhibit a play of fancy and a depth of feeling which we did not expect to meet in a work with a title so trifling. The 'Tale of the Buccaneer' is told with graphic power, and among the minor pieces there are songs and odes of much beauty. In the 'Scenes of the Seven Ages,' Shakspeare's 'Seven Ages of Man,' there are passages of inventive genius, that especially where the poet himself is represented as the schoolboy 'creeping unwillingly to school;' his playful talk, or rather soliloquy, in the meadows by the banks of the Avon, and the fairies, unseen, gathering round him, from whose chorus a few lines will show the author's style:—

"Sisters, brothers, gather round,
Where that boy's slow footsteps fall,
There for us is magic ground,
Fit for fairy festival;
Dazzling thoughts and fancies rare,
Weave a matchless carpet there.

"At this realm's antipodes,
Where far down in coral caves,
Blow the sea anemonies,
Isles are rising from the waves,
Which shall be mighty states, and then
These too shall hail him, first of men!

"Sisters, brothers, hasten!—we
To that loitering boy shall owe
Wondrous immortality.
When old genial faith runs low,
When hearts are hard, and fancies chill,
And mockery rules the world, we still,
E'en in that ignoble age,
Shall live and charm in Shakspeare's page."

In the 'Picture Gallery,' the descriptions given of the works of Claude, Titian, Guercino, Raffaele, and other masters of the art, display at once critical judgment and poetic taste. There is no denying Mr. Parker's wit and talent, and we regret that an author capable of such writing should so frequently descend to vulgar levity. It may be, however, that we ought rather to regret the appetite for such style among the class of readers for whose entertainment Bombay officers and Bengal civilians chiefly write.

SUMMARY.

The Book of Dignities: containing Rolls of the Official Personages of the British Empire. By Joseph Haydn. Longmans.

IN 1786, Dr. Robert Beatson, LL.D. and F.R.S., produced his 'Political Index to the Histories of Great Britain and Ireland,'—a work presenting for the first time, in a collective form, rolls of all the high personages in the state, from the period of the institution of their respective offices. His 'Index' was received with immediate and general popularity. Dr. Adam Smith highly commended the work, and three editions, each of many thousand copies, appeared. The first edition was in one volume, 8vo., the second in two, and the last, published in 1806, of three volumes. No other work has since appeared, in continuation of Dr. Beatson's 'Index,' or in room of it, although the book has still continued to be a favourite for reference, and copies are rarely to be procured. A field so promising has at length been worthily occupied by Mr. Joseph Haydn, well known to the public from his 'Dictionary of Dates,' and other works, which in their compilation required the diligence, judgment, and accuracy requisite for the present undertaking. The value of Dr. Beatson's work is so generally recognised, that its name appears as a second title in the present volume, which owes, however, little but the idea and general plan to its predecessor. The lists have, for the most part, been taken directly from official sources, and some of them are original contributions from distinguished individuals. That of the judges, for instance, was prepared by the late Lord Langdale, and the roll of Privy Councillors has been drawn up from the registers of the Council by permission of Lord Lansdowne, the Lord President. All the chief civil, ecclesiastical, judicial, military, naval, and municipal functionaries appear, the lists being given from the earliest periods to the present time. The Sovereigns of Europe, from the foundation of their states, the peerage, and other public lists, are added. To most of the departments of the work brief historical or explanatory notes are prefixed, so that the volume is interesting to the general reader, as well as of value to official men, and those connected with public affairs. In a work of such variety and magnitude it is impossible that no errors or inaccuracies should appear, but we are able to attest the general correctness of Mr. Haydn's lists, and to express our high sense of the ability and research with which he has performed his task. The work is dedicated to Lord Palmerston, both as an expression of the personal respect of the author to his lordship's

character, and as a well-merited testimony to the way in which his official duties are performed. 'Throughout his vast department there prevails a system of such efficiency and precision, that even the minutest matters relating to the most distant region can be at once determined by the records of his office.' The 'Book of Dignities' will become a necessary volume in all public offices, and will be found in most libraries a valuable book of reference, as affording information of a kind not elsewhere collected together, while it may be relied on as recent and authentic.

Popular History of Ireland. By Rev. R. Stewart, A.M. Partridge and Oakley.

MR. STEWART begins his book with a promise of "treating of the general history of Ireland, from the earliest periods of which tradition has preserved any recollection," yet arrives at the English conquest under Henry II. in less than four pages, of which all that actually relates to the ancient history of the country is comprised in a short extract from Plowden, of less than a page. In some respects Mr. Stewart may have exercised a sound discretion in clearing at one jump the boggy ground of Milesian annals; yet, under the contemptuous designation of "the fabulous eras of Irish history," he has included much that is historically true. The reader of his 'Popular History' will be ignorant of the fact, that the Northmen reigned for some centuries in Dublin, Waterford, and Limerick, and will know nothing of King Brian Boru, the celebrated battle of Clontarf, &c., which used to figure in the addresses of O'Connell. After this flying leap, Mr. Stewart descends upon the cause of the English invasion, which, according to him, was an Irish abduction. Mr. Stewart having thus jumped 'in medias res,' hastens on at a tolerably rattling pace, to the reign of George III., which comprises half his volume, but which contains many details that do not regard Ireland; such as the charges against the duke of York, the imprisonment of Sir F. Burdett, the Manchester riots, &c. The history of Ireland is made up of a sad detail of insurrection and violence, with all the accompanying horrors of famine and distress. Mr. Stewart strongly sympathises with the subjects of his narrative, and attributes all their misfortunes to English misrule. Mr. Stewart himself alleges, in excuse for skipping their earlier history, that "during a period of nearly 300 years (and he might have gone much higher), that is, from the death of Turgesius in 868, to the landing of the English in 1169, there is nothing to be found in Irish history but a series of civil wars and commotions." Yet he completely ignores the national characteristics indicated by this fact. Mr. Stewart's work, which is a good deal made up of extracts from Hume, Plowden, and other writers, is, in parts, carelessly written and worse printed. The general reader, who merely wants a sketch of the principal occurrences in the more modern history of Ireland, will probably find enough to satisfy him.

The Two Friends; or, Life in Earnest. A Tale. By Marriott Oldfield.

THE publication of this original work of fiction by the proprietors of the 'Parlour Library,' affords us an opportunity, of which we are happy to avail ourselves, of acknowledging the improving judgment exercised in the selection of the books which appear every month, ordinarily in the shape of a reprint of some standard novel, or other work of light literature. In the present instance, instead of the reappearance of some one of these old familiar faces, we are introduced to 'two' new 'friends.' We have seldom met with two more pleasing and interesting impersonations of those gentle and graceful qualities which constitute the principal charm of the female character, than those which Mr. Oldfield has depicted in the portraits of Mary Brooke and Annie Vincent. Friends and companions from their earliest youth, they are ultimately separated by the marriage of the latter with the brother of the former. The result of this union is a journey to the continent, where the husband of Annie becomes addicted to gambling, estranges

himself from his wife, and finally returns to England, where he is charged with the crime of forgery, and is even discovered to have poisoned an uncle, some few years previously, with the view of obtaining earlier possession of a fortune to which he was entitled at the death of his relative. These dreadful secrets are known to a gang of sharpers, who, under the threat of denouncing him as a felon, succeed in extorting from his wife the whole of her fortune under her settlement as the price of her husband's safe removal from the country. Mary, too, has her trials, and touching ones; but a happier marriage ultimately rewards her goodness and constancy. The sorrows of the two friends are mutually shared by them, and their sweet and gentle dispositions render comparatively smooth a path which to less loving and confiding natures would be far more rugged and thorny. The author has succeeded in drawing pictures of human nature in the most beautiful forms in which she presents herself to the imagination, both in her physical and moral aspects, and in happy contrast with the mean and selfish figure into which the human character is too frequently distorted by yielding to the temptations of ambition or vice.

Readings in Science and Literature. By Daniel Scrymgeour. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox.

AN excellent text-book for use in senior classes of schools, as well as for private instruction. In addition to the ordinary kind of extracts found in common-place compilations, the editor has given courses of reading on science and the arts, and other subjects which ought to find a place in the general education of the young. The contents are arranged under the heads of—1. Natural Sciences; 2. Miscellanies connected with Natural History, Geography, &c.; 3. History, Biography, Oratory; 4. Poetry. The introduction of passages from Humboldt's *Cosmos*, and Hugh Miller's geological works, and other books, where highest science and literature are combined, gives testimony to the taste and intelligence of Mr. Scrymgeour as a compiler and as a public teacher. The original part of the volume, containing a summary of general history, and an account of the history and etymology of the English language, is creditably performed. This volume is a valuable addition to our educational books. One word we must say, before laying down the book, as to its vile binding. We suppose we may use the word *vile* in its primitive sense, as denoting cheapness, but in these days books may be well bound and cheaply bound at the same time. We would not have noticed this, but for our having observed it in various school-books sent to us from Edinburgh. Publishers or binders deserve to get the stripes which many victims will get for the too speedy destruction of their books. The indestructible horn-books of other days are extinct, but there ought to be some better protection to learning than these 'Readings' enjoy in their thin-skinned coverings.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Arnold's First German Book, third edition, cloth, 5s. 6d.
 Latin Verse Book, third edition, 8vo, cl., 5s. 6d.
 Bandinel's (Rev. J.) *Lufra*; or, *Convent of Algarve*, 6s. 6d.
 Boat and Caravan, fourth edition, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
 Bonar's (H.) *Man; his Religion and his World*, cloth, 2s.
 Bryth's (Rev. Dr.) *Remains*, by Rev. G. R. Moncrieff, 14s.
 Chapman's Library, No. 2, 1s.
 Darwin's (C.) *Geological Observations on Coral Reefs*, 10s. 6d.
 Drawing Room Scrap Book, 1852, 21s.
 Dubuc's French Grammar, 12mo, 4s.
 Foulke's (Rev. E. S.) *Manual of Ecclesiastical History*, 12s.
 Francis's *Chronicles of Stock Exchange*, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Grant's Scottish Cavalier, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Haydn's (J.) *Book of Dignities*, 8vo, half bound, 25s.
 Hertslott's *Commercial Treaties*, Vol. 8, 8vo, boards, 30s.
 Hildreth's *History of United States*, Vols. 4 and 5.
 Hitchcock's (P.) *Religion of Geology*, 12mo, sewed, 1s. 6d.
 Hughes's *Geography for Elementary Schools*, 18mo, cl., 1s.
 Industrial Arts, Part 3, 7s.
 James's (J. H.) *Treatise on Fire and Life Assurance*, 15s.
 Jarman's *Sin Apprehended, Tried, and Condemned*, 2s. 6d.
 Laurence's (R. F.) *Order for Visitation of the Sick*, 5s. 6d.
 Levi's (L.) *Commercial Law*, Vol. 2, Part 1, 4to, 30s.
 Lossing's (B. J.) *Pictorial Field Book of Revolutions*, 21s.
 Macready's *Sketches of Suwarow and his Last Campaign*, 10s.
 Mills's *Literature and Literary Men of Great Britain*, 21s.
 Montgomery's (R.) *Luther*, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Morrison's (G.) *Young Ladies' Guide to Arithmetic*, 2s. 6d.

Moore's *Lalla Rookh*, with Plates, cloth, 15s., morocco, 28s.
 Morris's (Rev. J. B.) *Jesus, the Son of Mary*, 2 vols., 24s.
 Newman's (Rev. J. H.) *Parochial Sermons*, 8vo, cl., 10s. 6d.
 Pascal's (B.) *Thoughts on Religion*, from the French, 1s. 6d.
 Poole's (B.) *Statistics of British Commerce*, 8vo, 21s.
 Ravenscliffe; a Novel, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d.
 Ruskin's *Modern Painters*, Vol. 2, royal 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Schoedler's and Medlock's *Book of Nature*, 8vo, cl., 10s. 6d.
 Ditto, second Division, 5s. 6d.
 Scudamore's *Letters to a Seceder to Rome*, post 8vo, 7s. 6d.
 Selecta e *Propertio*, English Notes by Cookesley, 2s. 6d.
 Shaw's *Diary*, 1852, 4to, half-bound, 4s. 6d.
 Spring's *Bible not of Man, and Man's Obligation to Bible*, 4s.
 Springer's *Forest Life*, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
 Tasso's *Jerusalem Delivered*, by Smith, 2 vols. cloth, 12s.
 Thirlwall's *Greece*, Vol. 6, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Thornton's *Memoirs*, third edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Walker's (Rev. R.) *Text Book of Mechanics*, 12mo, cl., 5s.
 Year Book of Facts, extra volume, 1852, 12mo, cloth, 6s.

LORD BYRON'S SISTER.

THE Hon. Augusta Mary Byron, better known as the Hon. Augusta Leigh, died a few days since at her apartments in St. James's Palace, in the sixty-eighth year of her age. She was the half-sister of the author of 'Childe Harold' by a former marriage. Her mother was Amelia Darcy, Baroness Conyers, the divorced Duchess of Leeds, whose future happiness was thought to be foretold in some homely rhymes which Dr. Johnson loved to repeat:—

"When the Duke of Leeds shall married be
 To a fine young lady of high quality,
 How happy will that gentlewoman be
 In his Grace of Leeds's good company."

"She shall have all that's fine and fair,
 And the best of silk and satin shall wear;
 And ride in a coach to take the air,
 And have a horse in St. James's-square."

The poet was not, in this instance, a prophet; for the young lady proved anything but happy in his Grace of Leeds's good company. She was divorced from the Duke in 1779, and married immediately to Captain John Byron, by whom she had one child, the subject of the present notice. She survived the birth of her child barely a year, dying 26th January, 1784. Her son by her former marriage became the sixth Duke of Leeds.

On the 17th August, 1807, the Hon. Augusta Byron was married at St. George's, Hanover-square, to her cousin, Lieut-Colonel George Leigh, of the 10th, or Prince of Wales's Own Light Dragoons, son of General Charles Leigh by Frances, daughter of Admiral Lord Byron and aunt of Augusta. By this marriage (it was, we believe, a happy one), 'Augusta' had several children, some of whom survive her. She had been a widow for some time.

Lord Byron is known to have entertained for his sister a higher and sincerer affection than for any other person. His best friends in his worst moments fell under the vindictive stroke of his pen, or the bitter denunciation of his tongue. His sister escaped at all times. "No one," he writes, "except Augusta, cares for me. * * * Augusta wants me to make it up to Carlisle: I have refused everybody else, but can't deny her anything." One of the first presentation copies of 'Childe Harold' was sent to his sister with this inscription,—"To Augusta, my dearest sister, and my best friend, who has ever loved me much better than I deserved, this volume is presented by her father's son, and most affectionate brother." This attachment he has himself chosen to account for, but wholly without reason. "My sister is in town," he writes, "which is a great comfort; for, never having been much together, we are naturally more attached to each other."

One of the last evenings of Byron's English life was spent with his sister, and to her his heart turned when, in the midst of his domestic afflictions, it sought for refuge in song. Those tender, beautiful verses, 'Though the day of my destiny's over,' were his parting tribute to her, and were followed by a poem in the Spenserian stanza, of equal beauty, beginning—

"My sister, my sweet sister! if a name
 Dearer and purer were, it should be thine."

His will evinces in another way his affection for his sister. Nor was 'Augusta' forgetful of her brother. She remembered him with that tender

warmth of affection which women only feel, and publicly evinced her regard for him, by the monument which she erected over his remains in the little church of Hucknall. She bore, it may be added, no personal resemblance to her illustrious brother.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF MINES.

THE inaugural lecture, commencing the first session of this national Institution, was given on Thursday, in the Museum of Practical Geology, by Sir Henry De la Beche. The necessity of an educational college in which the sciences connected with mining and metallurgical operations should be taught, has long been felt in our mining and manufacturing districts, and the necessity of such an establishment has been repeatedly forced upon the attention of the Government. Sir Henry De la Beche commenced his discourse by giving an account of the origin of the Museum of Practical Geology, and a description of its more important practical illustrations. He particularly referred to the valuable collections of pottery, which very completely illustrate the history of the ceramic art in this country, and to those of glass, which exhibited the materials, showed the processes employed, and also the most striking productions of the British glass manufacturer. Metallurgy was also shown to be very fully illustrated in all its branches. The operations of mining, illustrated by models, tools, and machines, could now be very advantageously studied in the Museum, and it was shown that the capabilities of the Institution were fairly equal to the requirements of the miner and manufacturer. The extension of the usefulness of the Institution in the direction of the other industrial arts was looked forward to with much interest. The advantages of geological knowledge, with a view to the successful discovery and working of the mineral wealth of the country, was dwelt on by Sir Henry De la Beche, and several illustrations were given of the loss of money, and the failure of great designs, owing to a want of such knowledge. The improper formation of artificial basins, which have become rapidly silted up, and the injudicious recovery of alluvial land, by which the current of water keeping open the harbour's mouth was lessened, and consequently the entrance to the harbour rendered shallow by the accumulation of detrital matter, was dwelt upon. The use of geology in determining the conditions of mineral formations was also explained.

Sir Henry endeavoured to show that the objects of the "Institution were of an essentially practical kind. The more real knowledge was diffused the more would effective practice be increased. Science and practice were not antagonistic, they were mutual aids. The one advanced with the other. Civilization advanced science, viewed in all its strictness and height, and science by its applications advanced civilization. Steadily bearing in mind these truths, as they conceived them to be, it would be the earnest endeavour of those connected with the Institution to be useful, as far as their powers and abilities might permit, in promoting the progress of those for whom their teaching had especial reference, trusting at the same time to supply a national want, and by so doing assist in advancing the general good of our country."

The Director's general inaugural lecture is followed by departmental inaugural lectures from the several professors of the Institution, which, being of a more special character, we may be able to notice more at length. Dr. Lyon Playfair delivered a brilliant lecture yesterday on the important practical appliances of chemistry to arts and manufactures; and the departments of natural history and mechanical science will be opened on Monday and Tuesday by inaugural lectures from Professor Edward Forbes and Professor Robert Hunt.

The Lectures are delivered in the commodious new theatre of the Museum of Practical Geology in Jermyn-street.

THE ARCTIC COMMITTEE.

Nov. 6th, 1851.

THE Arctic Committee are now sitting, and doubtless will do what is right according to the

evidence before them. We are not sure, however, if the witnesses examined be able advocates. Stephenson, the inventor of the locomotive, so Sir Francis Head tells us, when examined before a committee of the House of Commons, was all but at his "wit's end." The rough-spoken but kind-hearted Newcastle man said, "I cannot speak about steam-engine carriages, but I have made them move." So may it be with Captain Penny and his partisans. Penny may be able to find Sir John Franklin, but may not be able to speak about his fitness. One thing we know, that in 1845, two strong ships, the *Erebus* and *Terror*, sailed with 138 men from Woolwich, and have not yet returned—138 men sent out by the British Government. That government—we should say rather the British people—is morally bound to do what it can to find them. Captain Penny's party have found Franklin's winter quarters in 1845-1846. Captains Austin, Ommaney, Penny, and Stewart, obtained most valuable negative results, which positively limit Franklin's passage to Wellington Channel, as any one may see who consults Arrow-smith's last accurate and well-executed chart of the Arctic searching expeditions. These expeditions have thus limited the field, or rather ocean, of inquiry, and whoever goes out again need not search Jones' Sound, Regent's Inlet, Rupert Land, or the passage by Banks' Land—so that the next expedition has only to advance, and sooner or later they must find Franklin's party or their remains. Are we quietly to abandon to their fate the crews of the *Erebus* and *Terror*? Are we not morally bound to search for them till we have found them or their remains? Sir James Clark Ross's expedition in 1848 was within forty or fifty miles of the spot where Penny subsequently (in 1850) discovered traces of Franklin's winter quarters. Franklin's "leaving no subsequent sign" strongly indicates his hopes of a North-West Passage, and his taking advantage of an open sea. There seems to be no doubt whatever that his ships are embayed somewhere up Wellington Strait, through Victoria Channel.

A. R.

PROPOSED SITE FOR A NATIONAL GALLERY.

It often happens, amidst dubious counsels and conflicting opinions, that some new and unexpected proposal reconciles differences, removes difficulties, and leads to a prosperous issue. This was notably seen in the case of the proposed building for the Great Exhibition. On the very eve of success, the whole scheme became overclouded with doubts and beset with hindrances, on account of the difficulty of fixing the nature of the building, or rather of obtaining any plan suited to the site which public opinion had sanctioned for the undertaking. Suddenly Sir Joseph Paxton's idea of a Crystal Palace was announced. From that day there broke a new light upon the counsels of the Royal Commissioners, and all things went on smoothly. We would fain hope that another illustration of this will be found in the proposal made this week by 'The Times,' for the site of the National Gallery. All the world has long known the insufficiency of the present building in Trafalgar-square, had in itself as a public edifice, worse for the purposes for which, at great cost, it was erected. It is well known, also, that the Commissioners have been diligently exploring and anxiously consulting where some site might be recommended for a new building worthy of being regarded as a National Gallery. The result of their deliberations was lately made public; and after recounting various suggestions, the report of the Commissioners pointed out the north edge of Kensington-gardens, fronting the Bayswater-road, as, on the whole, the most eligible site. The proposal met, however, with little public notice, and less assent or approbation. The whole thing seemed to have been left much in the perplexity in which the Commissioners found it. In this state of matters, an admirable proposal comes before us, to build the National Gallery on the south side of Hyde-park, on or near the site of the Knightsbridge Barracks. This site possesses all the requisite conditions for such a

building, with the additional advantage in the proposal, that a vast improvement would be effected in that part of Hyde-park and its neighbourhood. The barracks themselves form an unsightly pile of buildings, while around them are planted numbers of tippling-houses, booths, and other nuisances. To effect some improvement in the Knightsbridge district would be a great boon, and it would be a happy arrangement if this were connected with the advancement of so important a national undertaking. The distance and access from different parts of town are points to be considered, and the facility of obtaining the ground, with consequent lightening of the expense, is important. All things seem to concur in favour of the proposal, and it is alleged that the Royal Commissioners and the Commissioners of Woods and Forests have signified their approval. For ready transport to distant parts, in case of disturbances, cavalry as well as infantry must now be chiefly indebted to railroads, and the removal of the barracks to some point nearer the Great Western Railway would, even in a military point of view, be desirable. In moral and social points of view, the farther from town the better.

While we agree in the main with the proposal for the removal of the barracks, and the building of the Gallery on the north side of the Park, we must point out some confusion in the details of the article of 'The Times' on the subject. It is nearly a quarter of a mile from the end of Knightsbridge barracks to that of the houses abutting on the Park, the mean appearance of which is described as forming so great a contrast to the magnificence of Hyde-park corner. From Albert Gate westward, there is a long range of buildings, High-row, Albert-terrace, Park-place, and above Knightsbridge Green it is still some distance to the barracks. Over how much of this range of ground is the building to extend? Or, if built on the site of the barracks, and westward, are these poorhouses, with their dreary back-yards, to remain? Would not the expense of obtaining the ground for improvements be great—at Mills' Buildings, for instance, where the breadth of houses is considerable between the park and the road? Is not the rise of the ground at the barracks too great for the good architectural effect of so long a building? If built there, would not great improvements be also required on the opposite side of the Kensington-road? These and other questions will require to be considered before the proposal becomes definite, and can be fairly entertained. It appears that Mr. Thomas Cubitt, the builder, some years ago planned a row of terraces facing the park, and that Sir Robert Peel and Lord Lincoln had sanctioned the design, when a change of ministry put an end to the scheme. If this range of terraces were to extend eastward from the Gallery, without any of the present poor buildings intervening, a grand architectural effect might be obtained. We have doubts, however, first as to the facility of procuring the whole ground, and then as to the propriety of building the Gallery on the slope, instead of on the level ground nearer the Prince of Wales' gate.

One remark it is necessary to make here—that the merits of the present proposals ought to be considered wholly irrespective of the permanence, or not, of the Crystal Palace. We have pleaded against the hasty removal of a structure that might be turned to honourable use; but its standing on its present site we would regard as of no account before the claims of a permanent building like the National Gallery.

Meanwhile we hope that the discussion of this site will hasten the settlement of the plans between the Commissioners and the Government. Towards a national collection of paintings and sculpture no progress can, under existing circumstances, be made. The preparation of a worthy receptacle would, we believe, ensure rapid accessions to our present little stock of works of high art. Nor would we chiefly look to purchases or bequests. There might be an annual contribution of works sent from private galleries. This has already to a considerable extent been carried out, and with

what safety the Government may be entrusted with the temporary guardianship of private property the Great Exhibition testifies. Some of those who have other objects in their connoisseurship and collecting, than personal vanity or selfish pleasure, might be disposed to admit the public to share in whatever gratification or improvement would be derived from treasures otherwise useful to few. Of the general liberality and readiness of the possessors of pictures to allow public use of them, we have noticed some instances recently with much satisfaction. It was proposed this summer to exhibit all the pictures of the late Sir William Allan at Edinburgh. To this appeal, although made only on the responsibility of a private individual, and the exhibition to be held in the publisher's gallery, a ready and general response was made. From all parts of the country the pictures were sent, the Queen and the Duke of Wellington being among the contributors, and the Edinburgh public had the gratification of seeing almost the whole collected works of their countryman. The same occurred the year before, at the Edinburgh meeting of the British Association. It was proposed to collect in the University the portraits of Sir Henry Raeburn, and to this an equally ready response was made. Why may not the same spirit be manifested with respect to the National Gallery, with the higher guarantees there given for security, and the additional motives connected with an exposition so public? If a Gallery be built of adequate magnificence, we expect that the Commissioners would have more trouble in selecting than they now have in procuring works worthy of being exhibited.

The better arrangements that might be carried out in the present building at Trafalgar-square, if left entirely in the hands of the Royal Academy, form additional grounds for our desiring some speedy change. One obvious and important improvement, from the removal of the ancient pictures, would be the additional space secured for the annual exhibition. The promotion, for instance, of the sculpture from its present den to the large western rooms, would be of no little benefit at once to the public and to the professors of an art requiring among us every encouragement. But we must defer till another opportunity any remarks on the arrangements of the Royal Academy, upon the removal of the National Gallery.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, November 5.

A RECENT number of the official *Moniteur* contains a long report to the Minister of Public Instruction, by M. Vattemare, on the 'literary exchanges' which have recently been effected between France and the United States. It is not perhaps generally known that the governments, universities, colleges, scientific societies, literary establishments, medical and legal bodies, borough municipalities, and commercial associations of the two countries, have for years past been in the habit of making exchanges of books. They have thus got rid of duplicate copies which were rotting on their shelves, and have received in return works which it would have cost vast sums to purchase. A more useful arrangement could not possibly be conceived; and at the same time it has the advantage of spreading knowledge, and of increasing the friendly relations between the two peoples. Why should not England adopt the same system with France, with the United States, with every country in Europe? There is not perhaps a public library in the world from which she could not with advantage receive something, or contribute something to, and that without any other expense than carriage.

M. Ingres, one of the most celebrated chiefs of the modern French school of painting, has determined to bring out, in the book form, and with descriptive letter-press, engravings of the complete collection of all his productions, from the commencement of his career down to the present time. Simple designs and rough sketches are to be given, as well as great and laboured paintings. Altogether the work will be, from extent and complete-

ness, one of the most remarkable monuments of an artist's industry ever presented to the public. It strikes me that many of the most eminent of our artistic countrymen might profit by the Frenchman's idea. Painting and sculpture are at present only duly appreciated by a comparatively small portion of the public; and the purchasers of them form a narrow circle indeed. As engravings, they would address themselves to the taste of the vast mass of the community, and would find thousands of patrons. It may be said that print-sellers already multiply our artists' productions as much and as cheaply as is required; but such is not the fact. The people who have the taste and the means to ornament their walls with costly engravings are not much more numerous than those who buy pictures; and there is below them a perfect multitude who would be delighted to have the power of obtaining prints of a somewhat inferior quality and at a much cheaper rate. Besides, the production in the book form, with appropriate letter-press, would be more convenient to the mass of purchasers; and whilst extending the artist's fame, it would probably make it more durable. Moreover, the more we familiarize art, the more we extend civilization; and then it is to be remembered that we live in an age in which it is considered more glorious, as it is more profitable in a pecuniary point of view, to labour for the masses than for the few.

Last week's official list of new publications contains two entries which demonstrate in a remarkable manner the extraordinary popularity of Walter Scott in this country. One is the announcement of the publication of another volume of the *twentieth* edition of Defauconpret's translation of his novels; the other is the announcement of an entirely new translation of the said novels. If Defauconpret had been the only translator, *twenty* editions would have been an immense success; but there are besides, at the very least, twenty different translations of the complete works—(many of which have had two, three, or four editions)—and innumerable translations of particular novels, especially of 'Quentin Durward.' In fact, in France as in England, Scott dazzles every imagination and touches every heart—whatever be his reader's degree of education, or whatever his social position. His popularity amongst the lower orders, in particular, is so extraordinarily great, that it forms one of the most striking literary events of the present century. When a foreign writer is popular in any country, it is generally only amongst the educated classes; but there is not a *grisette*, nor an *ouvrier*, nor a *commissionnaire*, who does not know the works of "Voltaire Scott," as they call him, as well at least as those of the Sués and the Dumas, and the other heroes of the circulating library.

The French theatre seems destined sooner or later to supersede those of other countries. This is a mortifying declaration to have to make, but the fact is undeniable. Almost everywhere the native drama is in decadence, or at least is not fairly supported by the public; and almost everywhere the popularity of the French theatre is increasing where it is established, or that theatre is being started where it did not exist. London, St. Petersburg, Brussels, the Hague, and several of the great German towns, have already their Théâtre Française; Madrid has just established one also; and projects are on foot for founding others in other cities. It is not, it is needless to say, for its classical tragedies that foreigners give hearty welcome to the French stage; for the opinion is, I believe, universal, that the said tragedies are solemn bores; neither perhaps is it for Molière, and Regnard, and Beaumarchais, and their fellows, though they form perhaps the most brilliant staff of comic writers possessed by any nation. But it is simply and solely for the vaudeville, that creation, as Boileau says, of the *Français, né malin*, that sparkling, witty, elegant production, which no other people can rival or even tolerably imitate. The popularity of the vaudeville is certainly a curious thing to contemplate. Thoroughly and completely French—French in manners, in life, in incident, in persons, in language, in allusions, in

jokes, in everything—it yet pleases the grave German, the dull Englishman, the stolid Dutchman, the frozen Russ, the vivacious Italian, and the dignified Spaniard, as much as it does the volatile Parisian. And what is the vaudeville, after all? An airy nothing,—an edifice built on the point of a needle.

Henri Heine, the celebrated poet, and perhaps the only man who has succeeded in uniting German solidity and grandeur to French elegance and wit, is languishing on his death-bed. Recovery is impossible, and his state is such that death would be almost a blessing, though in him the world would lose one of the most remarkable geniuses of modern times. In the intervals between the paroxysms of his malady he composes verses, and (being deprived of the use of his limbs and of his eye-sight) dictates them to his friends. Very recently he had published in Germany a volume of poems thus composed, and its success, it appears, has been very great. He also occupies himself at times in inditing memoirs of his life, and as he has seen a good deal of French society, and was a shrewd and intelligent observer, he has much to say. One consequence of his long and lamentable sickness has been to effect a complete change in his religious views—the mocking Voltairian sceptic has become a devout believer.

The town was startled on Saturday by the announcement that an engineer would that very day demonstrate in the Champ de Mars that he had discovered the secret of directing balloons. As the Parisians take a very strong interest in the great problem of aerial navigation, a vast multitude of them hurried to the promised spectacle, and your humble servant was amongst them. But from some misunderstanding there was no balloon. We were, however, favoured with a sight of the apparatus which is, it is said, to effect what would be one of the most wonderful feats of this wonder-creating age. It consists simply of a number of sets of windmill-like sails, placed above and below and by the side of a frame-work doing duty as a car; each set of sails moved by men in the car is set in motion at the same time, and works in different directions; and there are besides two large screw propellers of sail cloth, which are worked by the same means as the sails. The inventor, it is said, has made with complete success numerous experiments of his system; but for my part, I say, in homely English style, "seeing is believing."

The negotiations between Prussia and France for the conclusion of a treaty for the suppression of literary piracy, which were broken off, or rather suspended, some months ago, have been resumed. Hopes are entertained that they will be brought to a favourable issue, though Prussia is rather lukewarm in the matter, from the fear of increasing the price of French publications to German purchasers. The active efforts which the French government is making in this affair have caused very serious alarm in Belgium, the principal centre of European piracy, and interested parties have begun to publish pamphlets, while they tease the government, and make the newspapers clamour in defence of their unlawful industry.

VARIETIES.

Royal Academy.—At a general assembly of the Academicians, held on November 3, at the Royal Academy of Arts in Trafalgar-square, Mr. William Boxall, Mr. Edward William Cooke, Mr. Frank Stone, and Mr. Henry Weekes were elected associates. Mr. Woodington has recently been appointed curator of the school of sculpture, and Mr. Le Jeune curator of the school of painting. Both artists are highly appreciated in the profession, and their appointment to these offices will be of much advantage to students.

University of Edinburgh.—The winter session was opened on Monday, November 3, with an introductory address by the Very Rev. Dr. Lee, Principal of the University. Upwards of 700 students were assembled on the occasion in the chemistry class-room, the largest room in the college. In the

course of his address, the Principal stated that two of the Professors were at present disabled from resuming their lectures—Professor Low, of the agricultural, and Professor Wilson, of the moral philosophy class. Professor Wilson, we regret to hear, has had an attack of paralysis. His illness is not very serious, but repose is recommended. Should he be unable to resume his duties, the pension lately granted in so honourable a manner by Lord John Russell will have come the more opportunely. Dr. Lee, in speaking of the age of entering the University, remarked, that many of the most eminent men he had known went to college very early. Lord Brougham went to college at the age of twelve, Sir David Brewster and Dr. Chalmers at eleven, and Lord Campbell at eleven. Archbishop Usher, Bishop Cowper, of Galloway, and Jeremy Taylor, also entered college unusually early.

Queen's College, Cork.—The third session of the Cork Queen's College was opened on Monday, November 3rd, with the usual public formalities. Dr. Wilson, Bishop of Cork, the Dean of Waterford, and other Protestant clergy, were present, but none of the Roman Catholic clergy. Many laymen of influence, both Protestant and Catholic, attended. The President, Sir Robert Kane, delivered a learned and appropriate discourse.

New Training College in Oxfordshire.—In consequence of the defective education of the labouring classes, the Bishop of Oxford has given much attention to the state of the schools in his diocese. Among other results, a new college has been instituted for the training of teachers. The foundation stone of the building was laid, October 28, by Dr. Wilberforce, in the parish of Calham, near Abingdon-road railway station. The estimated cost of the building is 12,000*l.*, a large part of which has been subscribed in the diocese, with aid of liberal grants from the Council on Education and the National Society. The style of architecture is to be the early Gothic of the fourteenth century; the buildings will extend over an area of eight acres, and will accommodate a hundred students, four or five masters, and a principal.

Whewell Prize.—The Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, has offered to the University a prize of 20*l.*, for the next four years, to the student showing most proficiency in moral philosophy in the Middle Bachelor's moral sciences Tripos examination, provided he possesses sufficient merit in the judgment of the examiners.

French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres.—The subject of a prize essay for 1853 is thus announced:—"What has been the increase of knowledge on the history of Greek sculpture, from the earliest period up to the times of Alexander, obtained from ancient monuments, especially those placed in the museums of Europe since the beginning of this century."

Royal Academy of Holland.—The King of Holland has just issued a decree dissolving the Royal Netherlands Institute of Science, Letters, and Fine Arts, to be replaced in 1852 by a Royal Academy. An annual grant from the states of 6000 florins will be given to the new institute. It will be composed of twenty-six ordinary, twenty-two extraordinary, and five free members. There will be eighteen foreign members, the appointments to which are already announced—Arago, Becquerel, Berghaus, R. Brown, Dumas, Baron d'Espine, Faraday, Gauss, Horfield, Humboldt, Liebig, Lindenau, Mohl, J. d'Omalus, Owen, Quetelet, Ramon de la Sagra, Tiedeman.

Zoological Society.—The monthly general meeting was held Nov. 6, at the Society's house, Hanover-square, Mr. Broderip in the chair. Several new members were proposed, donations announced, and a report made of the purchases at the Earl of Derby's sale at Knowsley. The visitors during the month amounted to 45,585, and the increase of visitors to this date over the corresponding period of last year amounted to 308,147. The scientific meetings for the season commence on Tuesday evening, Nov. 11, when, among other communications, Professor Owen will read a paper "On the Relative Capacity of the Cranium in the Negro, Chimpanzee, and Ourang Outan."

Great Exhibition Surplus.—At a meeting of the Royal Commissioners, held at the Crystal Palace, on Thursday, November 6, a report to Her Majesty was agreed to, in which, after referring to the award of the prizes, and the close of the Exhibition, the question of the surplus funds is taken up. The balance, it appears, after deducting all expenditure, will not exceed 150,000*l.* The proceeds have been in round numbers 505,000*l.*, viz.:—

Subscriptions . . . £67,400
Entrance fees . . . 424,400
Casual receipts . . . 13,200

£505,000

The number of visitors is stated to have been above six millions. The Commissioners represent that according to the powers entrusted to them, the funds in their trust can only be used 'for purposes in connexion with the Exhibition, or for the establishment of similar Exhibitions in future.' The latter application of the funds the Commissioners do not recommend, especially as experience has proved that such an undertaking will be self-supporting, and may be safely left to public spirit and private enterprise, apart from any national aid. They therefore apply for fresh powers, by royal charter or otherwise, to dispose of the 150,000*l.*

Dr. W. A. Bromfield, formerly of Ryde, Isle of Wight, known to naturalists by his papers on the Botany of the United States, in Hooker's 'Journal of Botany,' is reported in the daily papers to have died suddenly at Damascus of typhus fever.

Dr. Leichardt.—Since the wreck in Torres' Straits of the small vessel sent out from Sydney to explore the northern coasts of Australia, no steps have been taken to renew the search after this excellent and enterprising naturalist, and his missing companions. We trust that either Government or private benevolence will not let this matter rest as at present. In the interest felt for Sir John Franklin, let not this other claim at once of humanity and science be forgotten.

Mr. Samuel Beaseley, the theatrical architect, dramatic writer, and novelist, committee architect and surveyor of Drury Lane, died the week before last. He was in his sixth-sixth year. Of his literary works, the chief were—novels, 'The Roué,' and 'The Oxonians'; farces, 'Old Customs,' 'Bachelors' Wives,' 'Is He Jealous?' and others of less merit. Of his architectural works, the best known and most admired are, the Colonnade of Drury Lane Theatre in Russell-street, the Lyceum, the Façade of the Adelphi and the Royal Birmingham Theatres.

Jeany Lind.—Surprise has been expressed at the long silence of the Swedish Nightingale. We regret to learn that her health had been somewhat impaired by her early fatigues in America. She had travelled nearly sixty thousand miles, and given more than a hundred and forty concerts within a year. Rest was necessary, and she lived in perfect retirement at Niagara. This is why she did not return to Europe with Messrs. Benedict and Belletti, or with Mr. Barnum. She was to give a concert at Buffalo on the 15th of October. She intends to return to this country early in 1852.

Mr. William Murray.—Mr. Murray, who has so long been known as theatrical manager in Edinburgh, has retired into private life. On Friday, Oct. 24, he took his farewell benefit at the Adelphi Theatre, appearing, for the last time, in a favourite character, *Sir Anthony Absolute* in *The Rivals*. At the end of the play he delivered an address, in which he recounted the main features of his professional life. He had been forty-two years before the public in Edinburgh as actor and lessee, and during that period, besides his professional fame, he had enjoyed the respect of the citizens, and the friendship of Scott, Wilson, Cunningham, Jeffrey, and other leading literati of 'Modern Athens.' His first appearance, in early life, in his nineteenth year, was at Covent Garden, under the auspices of Mr. Kemble. Mr. Murray was one of the most versatile actors ever on the stage, and we remember none who could take successfully so wide a range of characters. For pathos or drollery he was equally ready. It will not be easy to fill up the blank left by his retirement. He will be missed as

an actor, and still more as a manager, having laboured successfully to make the theatre a place of intellectual recreation and a school of taste. The members of his company, orchestra, and servants of the theatre, presented him on the same day with a set of silver claret jugs, with a suitable inscription, Mr. Mackay, the celebrated *Baillie Nicol Jarvie*, acting as spokesman on the occasion.

Law Lectures.—A series of lectures on common and criminal law has been commenced in the Hall of the Incorporated Law Society, Chancery Lane, by Mr. H. J. Hodgson, barrister-at-law. The learned lecturer said, in his opening address, on Nov. 3, that he would select subjects not likely to be affected by the late and impending changes in the law. He commenced a course on the 'Law of Assurance,' to be continued weekly till Christmas. The attendance of students was considerable.

Mechanics' Institutions.—The Fifth Annual Meeting of the "Midland Counties' Association of Mechanics' and Literary Institutions" was held lately at Lincoln. After routine business, the event was commemorated by a dinner and *soirée*, the Earl of Yarborough presiding. At the *soirée* there were upwards of 500 present. The speech of the evening was that of Lord Carlisle, illustrating the benefits of popular education and mental improvement, and ending with a resolution, "That Mechanics' Institutions, having for their object the advancement of the people in solid and useful education, deserve the support of all classes interested in the welfare of their country."

Copyright Regulation for British Guiana.—By an order in Council of Oct. 23rd, an ordinance of the Governor and Court of Policy of British Guiana is confirmed, authorizing the importation into that colony of "books, being foreign reprints of books first composed, or written, or printed, or published in the United Kingdom," the prohibitions of the Copyright Act being suspended.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Government School of Mines, 1 p.m.—(Professor E. Forbes on Natural History, Inaugural Lecture.)—Geographical, 8½ p.m.—(1. Projected Expedition of Lieut. Pine, R.N., in search of Sir John Franklin, to North-eastern Siberia. 2. Progress of the Mission to Central Africa.)

Tuesday.—Government School of Mines, 11 a.m.—(Professor Robert Hunt on Mechanical Science, Inaugural Lecture.) Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.—Zoological, 9 p.m.—(Professor Owen on the relative capacity of the Cranium in the Negro, Chimpanzee, and Orang-utan.)

Wednesday.—Literary Fund, 3 p.m.—Ethnological, 8½ p.m.—Pharmaceutical, 8½ p.m.

Thursday.—Royal Society of Literature, 4 p.m.

Friday.—Astronomical, 8 p.m.

Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 p.m.

* * The Secretaries of Societies are solicited to furnish the editor with the titles of papers intended to be read.

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25	5000	7	775 16 8	347 13 4	44 16 3
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45	2000	6	464 0 0	172 6 7	37 2 10

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15	1 11 0	1 15 0	40	2 18 10
20	1 13 10	1 19 3	50	4 0 9
30	2 4 0	2 10 4	60	6 1 0

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